



# News Release

**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**  
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**IDAHO ENERGY DIVISION HAILS APPROVAL  
FOR MERIDIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSERVATION PLAN**

For Immediate Release  
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State energy officials are applauding approval of the energy conservation plan they helped design for the Meridian School District, a plan that is expected to save the District more than half a million dollars a year in energy costs, the Idaho Energy Division said.

The Meridian project is the seventh “Rebuild Idaho” energy efficiency project put in place by the Idaho Energy Division in recent years. The seven projects are expected to result in more than \$1.8 million per year in utility cost savings.

The Rebuild Idaho program is a local version of a national Federal government program designed to reduce energy consumption in communities by helping them design and implement total energy conservation packages.

“The Meridian plan is a perfect example of how the Rebuild Idaho program provides lucrative energy efficiency improvement strategies to school districts which can result in truly substantial savings in utility costs,” said Sue Seifert, Rebuild Idaho program manager with the Idaho Energy Division.

The Meridian School Board approved the project at its meeting Monday evening (Oct. 28). The project is expected to save the District some \$7 million in utility costs over the next 12 years.

Three other Idaho school districts – Emmett, Jerome and Moscow – already have embraced Rebuild Idaho energy efficiency strategies. They are in the process of installing energy efficiency improvements estimated to annually save more than \$394,000 in energy costs. (Emmett, \$261,000; Jerome \$81,000; Moscow \$52,000).

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Seven more school districts – including Idaho Falls, Boise, Twin Falls and Caldwell - have established partnerships with the Rebuild Idaho program to identify potential energy conservation actions they can take.

Rebuild Idaho energy efficiency improvements are also being implemented by the University of Idaho, Boise State University, Idaho State University, the City of Caldwell, Ada and Canyon Counties. These improvements are conservatively expected to save a total of more than \$1.5 million (\$1,540,000) per year in utility costs.

Seifert said more than two dozen Rebuild Idaho partnerships around the state are already on the books in various phases of activity.

Rebuild Idaho specialists work with partners to help identify both operational strategies and specific physical improvements that result in utility cost savings. Typically, the final Rebuild Idaho plan will eventually pay for itself with the savings in utility costs, Seifert explained.

For more information about the Rebuild Idaho program contact Seifert at (208) 327-7973.